Developing Requirements for the OCRWM Portal





Office of Civil Radioactive Waste Management

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- Background
- Approach
- Lessons
- OCRWM Information Portal
- Questions





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- ▶ CIO, OCRWM's original business problem was the need to reduce a massive amount of redundant data and information
 - Court order to retain email as a federal record
 - ▶ 8 terabytes of data in 8 months
 - Authority given to remove redundant information (i.e. copies, forwards, etc.)
- CIO purchased a tool to solve the problem
 - Autonomy's Portal-in-a-Box could identify redundant information





- Having the solution in hand for his original objective, the CIO turned his attention to his second most pressing problem –
 Providing his staff access to the information and knowledge needed on a daily basis
 - Information glut
 - Over 1500 Lotus Notes databases
 - Users inability to find needed information
- Autonomy's Portal-in-a-box could be used to meet CIO's second objective
 - Improve efficiency of information retrieval
 - Enhance information availability and sharing across organization
 - Increase employee satisfaction in using knowledge resources





- ▶ The CIO directed that a Knowledge Needs Assessment be conducted to develop portal requirements
 - Identify the most important information sources
 - Introduce knowledge sharing concepts
 - Provide users a "one-stop shop" for information resources



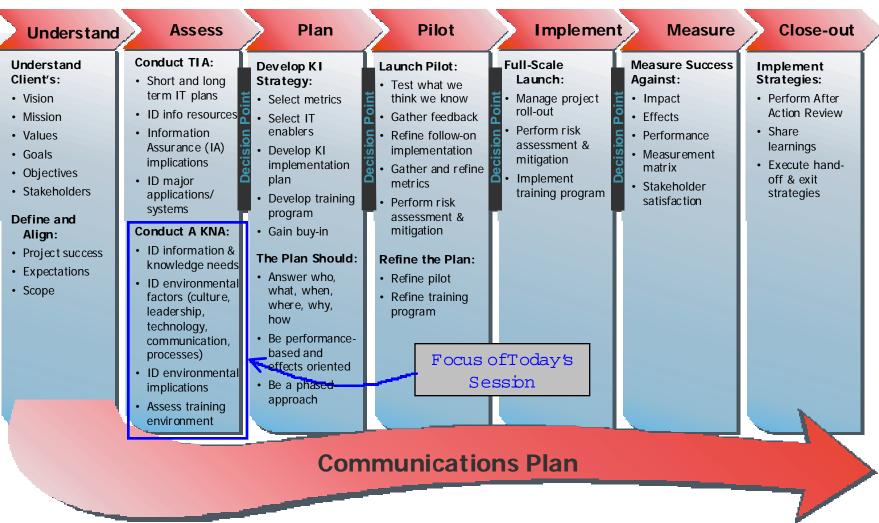


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▶ The KNA is only one step of the a formal Knowledge Management lifecycle effort







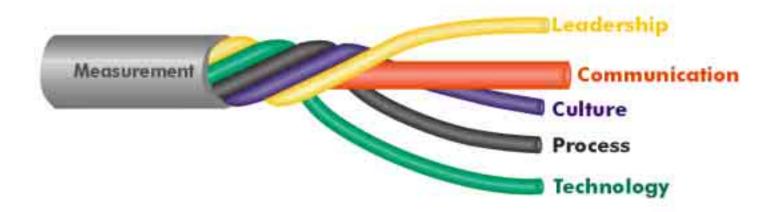
Several preparatory steps were necessary for the KNA

- Develop Collection Plan
 - Focuses KNA
 - Resists tendency to start developing interview questions without focusing first
 - Baseline to build customized interview templates
- Create Interview Template
 - Modify Interview Template as needed throughout interviews
- Confirm KNA focus with CIO
- Identify KNA participants
- Coordinate with organizational POCs to schedule interviews
- Send KNA announcement and Interview Template to KNA participants





- ▶ The approach focused on all five dimensions of the Knowledge "rope of strength"
 - CIO recognized that communications was a key component





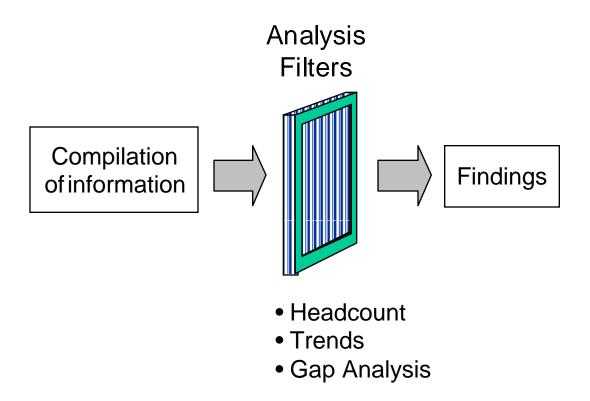


- The approach relied on face to face interviews, preferably oneon-one
 - 129 staff were interviewed over 7 months
 - Interviews each averaged 1 hour
 - Staff represented 14 OCRWM organizations
 - Review after each organizational interview
 - All interviews were non-attributional and anonymous
 - Information collected was sometimes sensitive
 - Group interviews confirmed individual interviews
 - Interviews served as a communication tool to promote portal





▶ Determining the "so what" is the hard part







- While the focus of the effort was on identifying information and Knowledge needs, a normal outcome of this approach identifies other significant issues, as well
 - Communications barriers present
 - Few incentives to keep information current
 - Information sharing among peers frequent
 - Training not utilized to full extent





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- ▶ The approach was right under the circumstances
 - Helped the CIO build trust with his organization
 - Initiated interest in the future portal
 - Allowed portal to be developed specific to OCRWM organization's knowledge needs
 - Surfaced or confirmed significant issues





- Several other aspects of the approach proved useful
 - Non-attributional interviews
 - Taping of interviews
 - Quotable quotes
 - Use of the same collection team for the entire project

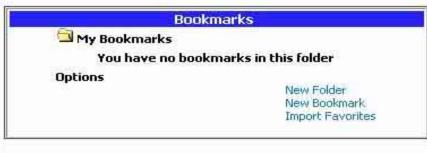


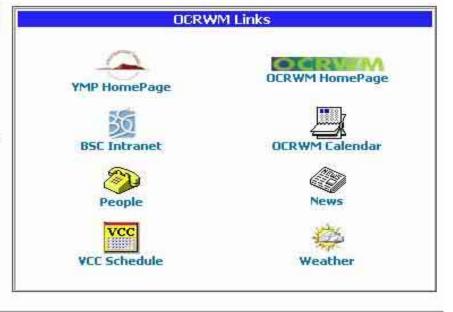


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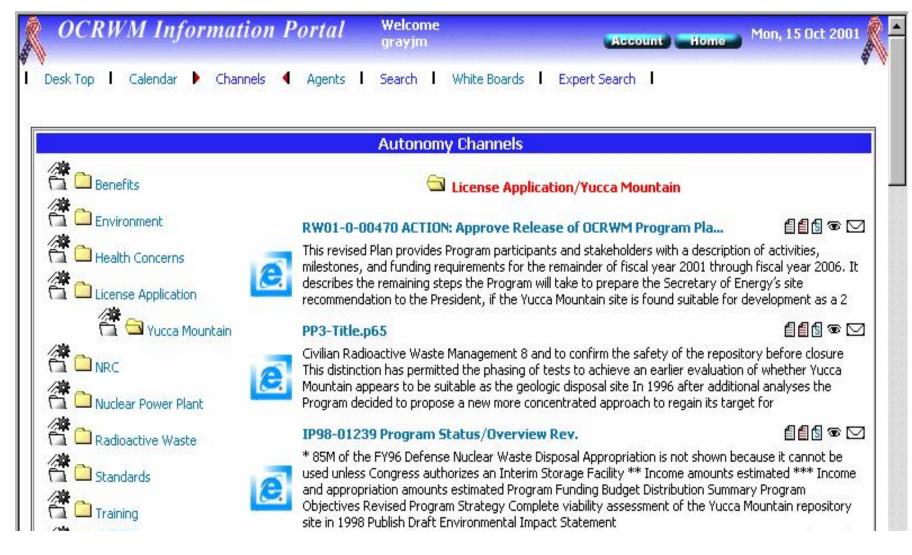




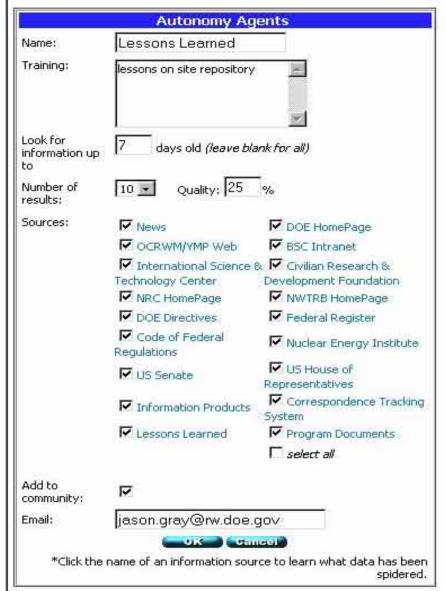












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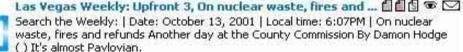


LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL: NEWS





TOP STORIES -- Thursday, August 16, 2001 YUCCA MOUNTAIN: Ex-governor promotes nuke dump Former Nevada Gov. Robert List has begun work on behalf of nuclear energy interests to champion the position the industry's waste is inevitably coming to Yucca Mountain and it's time to negotiate for benefits -- dismaying public officials who see the move as a coup for proponents of









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